

Nyack Parks Commission Minutes July 29, 2015
Meeting Minutes taken by Carolyn Cairns

Park Commissioners present:

Jim Willcox
Bert Hughes
Carolyn Cairns
Steve Guarascio

7:00 PM Meeting begins

Water Feature. Frustration voiced about constant state of flooding at sprinklers, with large mud flat and four inch deep X 5 foot puddles that persist due to unattended drainage from the water feature. Water also accumulating in the playground.

Fence: Second request needed to urgently remove broken (trampled) piece of fence that kids are climbing over to get to the playground from the southern side. Bert can get a price and order the fence quickly if he gets the measurements from the Village, which was requested back in May. We had recommended the design and height issues soon.

Jim W will contact to Jen and Jim directly tomorrow to urge them to attend to these issues.

Replacing existing lighting with LEDs and possible solar and security lighting: Marcy Denker was able to secure a park lighting site map. The Environmental Committee and Jen had a meeting recently with a representative from an LED lighting company, who presented details on what would be possible in the park. Steve will follow up with Marcy.

Proposal for an event in the Park: Parks Commission had a request for use of the park during the Labor Day weekend, with a number of vendors. Village is concerned about possible construction obstacles at that time of the year. Parks Commission has no objection, defers to the Village to determine if the timing and event size are appropriate.

Viewing Platform: Due to be almost completed in coming weeks. Bert raised questions about whether there will be lighting on that platform. That's why Jen thought it was good timing for lighting conversation. It appears the lighting that was there has been removed. Concerns were also raised about proposal for moveable seating on the platform, fearing that it could be destroyed, stolen, or not properly put away every day. There was also concern about uncovered landscaping fabric under the gravel, which is now sticking up in several places. Parks Commission would like for it to be addressed — either removed or repaired. Also, there were questions about the area where gazebo was located; it appears seeding was done, but it doesn't look like area was properly prepared. Concern that grass will not grow there.

Gazebo: Question about the current status. Has a new design been chosen? Are they still planning to make benches from the beams?

Landscaping: Stone boulder memorial for Rex Bernstein has been approved to install a large boulder. Pars Commission will weigh in on possible location, perhaps near the stream far enough out as to avoid sledding area.

Picnic Tables: Wondering why they are painted yellow.

Water Fountain: Bert donated a water fountain, wondering if it will be installed. The current one near the bathrooms isn't working, poor design and installation that makes it prone to breaking. Would like to see a new fountain installed in an appropriately solid base to resist/thwart breaking. Also, there is an old non-working fountain on the upper section of the park that should be replaced. (It is currently an eyesore.) Village had discussed moving its location but since playground fence is going in, it may not need to be moved. Bert has plan for what to replace it with, but need to get going with it. We need something that will be durable and able to withstand heavy contact.

Vagrancy: Seems like there has been some improvement, but people are regularly partying in the park every night after police make a circuit around 10:00. Loud music is common, as is drinking, police have been called numerous times but people seem to be able to use the park with impunity after hours on a regular basis.

Outrigger Program: Question about whether anyone can use the eco dock in the marina for launching human-powered watercraft, or if its use is exclusive to the River Rowing Association for its outrigger program. Also wondering if there are any scholarships available.

Marina Parking: Concern about Seaport's use/restriction of parking lots in the vicinity of the building. Asking Village to clarify.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.